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## Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

executing corresponding instruction threads in parallel as a leading thread and a trailing thread;

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speculatively saving a result from a first instruction executed in the leading thread and speculatively saving a result from a second instruction corresponding to the first instruction executed in the trailing thread to a memory having extensions for speculative storage;

comparing the results saved in the memory; committing a single set of instructions based on the compared result; and deferring external updates until completion of the step of committing.

- 2. (canceled)
- (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the <u>corresponding</u> instruction threads are epoch instruction <u>threads</u>.
- 4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 3, wherein a <u>location</u> read by the leading thread during <u>an</u> epoch contains same value <u>as that read by the leading thread</u> when the corresponding read by the trailing thread loads occurs.
- 5. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
  a means for executing parallel threads as a leading thread and a trailing thread;
  a means for speculatively saving the results from the executed threads in a memory having extensions for speculative storage;
  a means for comparing the results saved in the memory;

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a\_means for committing a single set of thread based on the compared result; and
a\_means for deferring external updates until completion of the step of committing.

- 6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein the executed threads are epoch threads.
- 7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 6, wherein each epoch is executed twice.
- 8. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 5 wherein a location having a first value when loaded by the leading thread during an epoch contains the first value when the corresponding load by trailing thread loads occurs.
- 9. (canceled)
- (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 8 wherein the single set is committed if the compare result matches.